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Mint of the United States.

Philad^a Aug 12. 1864.

Hon W. P. Fessenden,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir

I have the honor to ack^t the receipt of Your letter of the 8th inst enclosing a copy of a Communication from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint Denver, in relation to the issue of loan certificates at that institution.

Learning some few weeks since that the Contract of the overland Stage Co^y had been renewed, I requested Mr Ben Halliday, the proprietor of the line to make a proposition for transporting bullion from Denver to Philad^a. He replied that he would do so as soon as the disturbances on the route ~~had~~ were removed. I have heard nothing from him since. It is not likely that the company would undertake to transport bullion until the Hostile bands of Indians infesting the line are

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driven off by Military force.

It is of the utmost importance in a financial point of view, to afford every practicable aid and encouragement to the bullion producers of Colorado and Idaho Territories. The Mining interests there are now in a flourishing condition and the production of the precious metals rapidly increasing. But if travel from the Mo River to Denver, is rendered unsafe and immediate and serious interruption of the Mining business will follow. My information leads me to think that the route is not safe, and that travel and transportation across the plains is already interrupted - In view of these facts it will be well to consider what aid can be afforded by the Department to protect an interest of so much importance to the public. The issuing of certificates by the Branch Mint for bullion deposited thereat, Redeemable in Coin at the Mint in Philadelphia, would be a very beneficial measure. The only difficulty in the way is the transportation of the bullion to Phila. for Assaying and Coining. Under existing circumstances, it could only be done only by

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Private Messenger protected by Cavalry escort
as far as the Missouri River, at which point, it
could be delivered into the hands of a Reliable
Express Co. If a sufficient and Reliable force of
Cavalry can be spared and assigned to the duty
in question the proposed measure can, without
difficulty, be carried into effect, and the bullion
interests of those Territories be fully protected. The
large trains of transportation (Mining Machinery &
Merchandise) as well as emigrants would also
receive protection and their safety be assured
by this means.

If, on conference with the proper
Department, You conclude that the Military aid
suggested can be obtained, I will report the
details of the proposed measure.

The amount of Gold bullion received
at Philad: & New York from Colorado, Utah
and Idaho Territories, is now about $500,000 per
Month. It will be considerably increased if the
proposed measure is adopted.

The arrangement for transporting the bullion
could be discontinued as soon as the danger of
attacks from Indians is removed.

All of which is respectfully submitted

Your obt. Sert.

James Pollock Director

by A R Linderman

Aug 13/64